



Salmonella

Multistate Outbreak of Human *Salmonella* Hadar Infections Linked to Live Poultry

Posted July 23, 2012 03:30 PM ET

At a Glance:

- **Case Count: 37** (</salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/epi.html>)
- **States: 11** (</salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/map.html>)
- **Deaths: 0**
- **Hospitalizations: 8**

More Information:

- [Advice to Consumers](/salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/advice-consumers.html) (</salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/advice-consumers.html>)
- [Key Resources](/salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/key-resources.html) (</salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/key-resources.html>)

Latest Case Count Map



Highlights

- **Read the Advice to Consumers »** (</salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/advice-consumers.html>)

A total of 37 persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Hadar have been reported from 11 states.

The number of ill persons identified in each state is as follows: Arizona (2), California (1), Colorado (3), Idaho (5), Illinois (2), Oregon (5), Tennessee (2), Texas (1), Utah (5), Washington (9), and Wyoming (2).

- Eight ill persons have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.
- 37% of ill persons are children 10 years of age or younger.
- Epidemiologic, laboratory and traceback findings have linked this outbreak of human *Salmonella* infections to contact with live poultry from Hatchery B in Idaho.
- Mail-order hatcheries, agricultural feed stores, and others that sell or display chicks, ducklings, and other live poultry should provide health-related information

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page] (</healthypets/resources/salmonella-baby-poultry.pdf>) to owners and potential purchasers of these birds prior to the point of purchase. This should include information about the risk of acquiring a *Salmonella* infection from contact with live poultry.

Initial Announcement

July 23, 2012

CDC is collaborating with public health and agriculture officials in many states and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, National Poultry Improvement Plan, and Veterinary Services to investigate an outbreak of human *Salmonella* Hadar infections linked to chicks, ducklings, and other live poultry from Hatchery B in Idaho. The mail-order hatchery has not been named at the request of state authorities. Public health investigators are using the [PulseNet \(/pulsenet/\)](http://pulsenet/) system to identify cases of illness that may be part of these outbreaks. In PulseNet, the national subtyping network of public health and food regulatory agency laboratories coordinated by CDC, DNA "fingerprints" of *Salmonella* bacteria are obtained through diagnostic testing with pulsed-field gel electrophoresis, or PFGE, to identify cases of illness that may be part of this outbreak.

These outbreaks can be visually described with a chart showing the number of persons who became ill each day. This chart is called an [epidemic curve or epi curve \(/salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/epi.html\)](http://salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/epi.html). Illnesses that occurred after June 14, 2012 might not yet be reported due to the time it takes between when a person becomes ill and when the illness is reported. This takes an average of 2 to 3 weeks. Please see the [Salmonella Outbreak Investigations: Timeline for Reporting Cases \(/salmonella/outbreaks/reporting_timeline.html\)](http://salmonella/outbreaks/reporting_timeline.html) for more details.

Contact with live poultry, including baby or adult birds, can be a source of human *Salmonella* infections. Always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water right after touching live poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam. Adults should supervise hand washing for young children. [Additional recommendations are available \(/Features/SalmonellaBabyBirds/\)](http://Features/SalmonellaBabyBirds/).

Mail-order hatcheries, agricultural feed stores, and others who sell or display chicks, ducklings  [PDF - 1 and other live poultry should provide [health-related informationpage \(/healthypets/resources/salmonella-baby-poultry.pdf\)](http://healthypets/resources/salmonella-baby-poultry.pdf) to owners and potential purchasers of these birds prior to the point of purchase. This should include information about the risk of acquiring a *Salmonella* infection from contact with live poultry.

Investigation of the Outbreak

As of July 19, 2012, a total of 37 persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Hadar have been reported from 11 states. The number of ill persons identified in each state is as follows: Arizona (2), California (1), Colorado (3), Idaho (5), Illinois (2), Oregon (5), Tennessee (2), Texas (1), Utah (5), Washington (9), and Wyoming (2).

Among the persons who reported the date they became ill, illnesses began between March 19, 2012 and July 6, 2012. Infected individuals range in age from less than 1 year to 69 years, and 37% of ill persons are 10 years of age or younger. Forty-nine percent of ill persons are female. Among 26 ill persons with available information, 8 (31%) have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

In interviews, ill persons answered questions about contact with animals and foods consumed during the week before becoming ill. Twenty-four (89%) of 27 ill persons interviewed reported contact with live poultry (e.g., chicks, ducklings, turkeys) before becoming ill. The median time from acquiring baby poultry and illness onset was 19 days, with a range of 4 to 70 days. Live poultry were purchased from agricultural feed stores or direct from the mail-order hatchery. Ill persons reported purchasing live poultry for backyard flocks to produce eggs or meat, or to

keep as pets. Seventeen (85%) of 20 ill persons with available purchase information reported purchasing live poultry from various locations of 13 different agricultural feed store companies in multiple states. Because the potential for *Salmonella* infection exists wherever these live poultry are sold, and not just at one feed store, CDC's recommendations apply wherever these poultry are sold.

Findings of multiple traceback investigations of live poultry from homes of ill persons have identified Hatchery B in Idaho as the source of chicks and other live poultry. The owners of the mail-order hatchery are working closely with public health and agriculture officials to address this outbreak. Hatchery B is a participant in the USDA-National Poultry Improvement Plan which is a program to eliminate *Salmonella pullorum* and *Salmonella typhoid* from breeder flocks but does not certify freedom from other strains of *Salmonella* in birds. Because the hatching season has ended for this year, Hatchery B is not currently producing live poultry for sale. Live poultry infected with *Salmonella* can appear healthy and clean, but still shed *Salmonella* germs that can make people sick. Because live poultry from Hatchery B may live in backyard flocks for long periods of time, it is important to be aware of the risk of *Salmonella* infection from these birds, as well as all live poultry, and to follow the Advice to Consumers.

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Content source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID)

Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases (DFWED)

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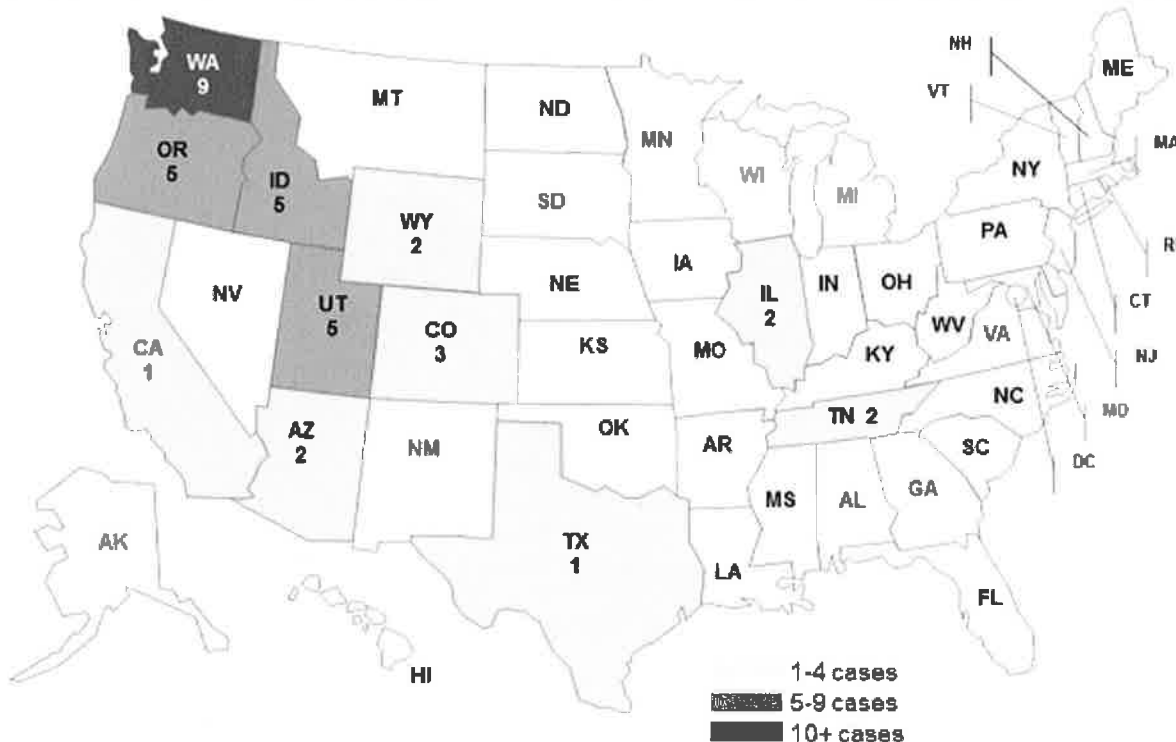
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Case Count Map

Persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Hadar, by State*



*n=37 for whom information was reported as of July 19, 2012

A total of 37 persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Hadar have been reported from 11 states. The number of ill persons identified in each state is as follows: Arizona (2), California (1), Colorado (3), Idaho (5), Illinois (2), Oregon (5), Tennessee (2), Texas (1), Utah (5), Washington (9), and Wyoming (2).

[Read the full Outbreak Investigation \(/salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/index.html\)](/salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/index.html)

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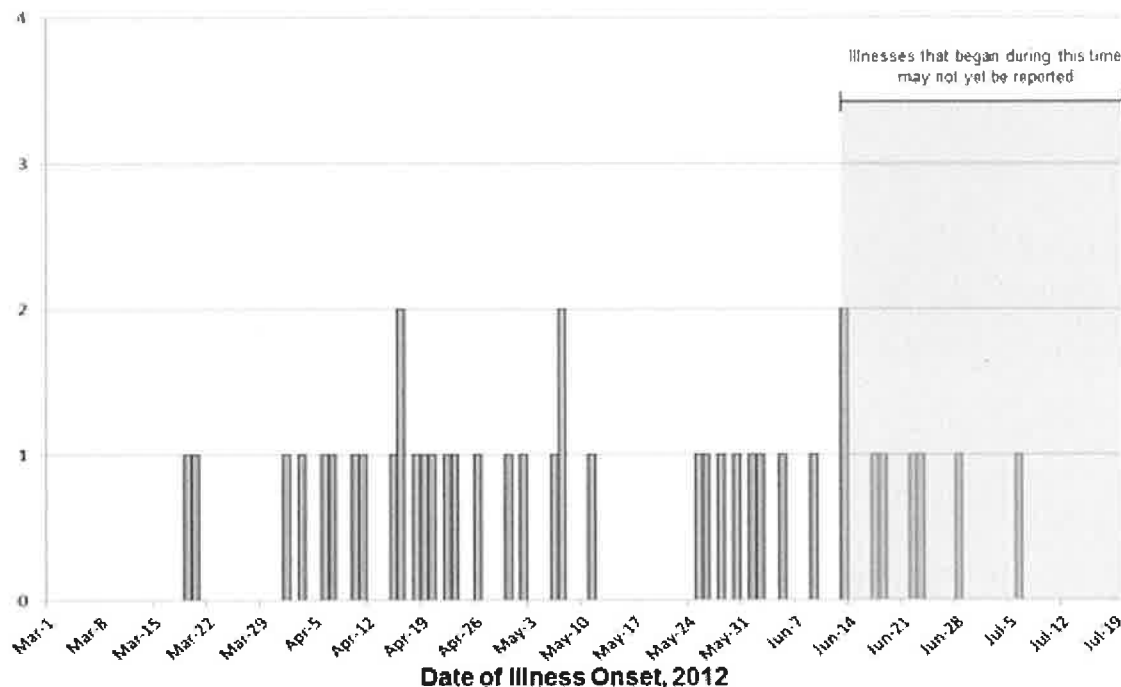
Epi Curve

This outbreak can be visually described with a chart showing the number of persons who became ill each day. This chart is called an epi curve. Please see the [Timeline for Reporting of *Salmonella* Cases \(/salmonella/outbreaks/reporting_timeline.html\)](/salmonella/outbreaks/reporting_timeline.html) for more details on the reporting process.

Epi Curve

Persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Hadar, by date of illness onset*

Number of Persons



*n=37 for whom information was reported as of July 19, 2012. Some illness onset dates have been estimated from other reported information. Illnesses that occurred after June 14, 2012 might not yet be reported due to the time it takes between when a person becomes ill and when the illness is reported. This takes an average of 2 to 3 weeks.

[Read the full Outbreak Investigation \(/salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/index.html\)](/salmonella/hadar-live-poultry-07-12/index.html)

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